NOTE XXIV.

DESCRIPTION OF EIGHT NEW BIRDS COLLECTED BY Mr. H. A. LORENTZ IN SOUTHWESTERN NEW GUINEA

BY

Dr. E. D. VAN OORT.

The collection of birdsskins made by Mr. H. A. Lorentz during his glorious and successful expedition to the snowy mountains of New Guinea contains nearly thousand specimens. As could be expected, there are many interesting examples in the collection, new species as well as such which as yet had not been recorded from western New Guinea. The descriptions of the new forms, collected in the higher parts between 2600 and 4200 m., are given in the following lines; the report on the whole collection shall be published in „Nova Guinea".

Anurophasis, nov. gen. Gallidarum.

Bill short, at base broader than high; culmen conspicuously arched; tip rounded and curving over the lower mandible. Nostrils concealed above by a scale and below by plumes. Tarso-metatarsus a little longer than middle toe with claw, covered in front with two rows of scales. Toes rather long, inner toe shorter than the outer; hind toe short and elevated. Claws strong and pointed, slightly curved, but that of the inner toe quite straight. Wings not very long, slightly rounded; fourth and fifth primaries the longest. Tail apparently wanting, rectrices soft and not to be distinguished from the coverts.

Anurophasis monorthonyx nov. spec.

♂, Oranje Mountains (3800 m.), 5 November 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 254. — Top of head and hind neck umber-brown, banded with black; feathers of back black with three rufous-white cross-bars; rumpfeathers and upper tailcoverts black with ochre-white cross-bars; upper wing-coverts black, banded with rufous; sides of head umber-brown; chin and throat pale rufous; fore neck rufous; under parts rufous, breast and vent indistinctly banded with black; sides of body black, banded with rufous white; under tail-coverts pale rufous; primaries ashy brown; secondaries ashy brown, mottled and margined with pale rufous; under wingcoverts ashy brown, banded with rufous white. Iris red-brown, bill blackish yellow, feet yellow. Wing 163, tailcoverts about 70, bill 19, tarso-metatarsus 44, middle toe with claw 45 mm.

Psittacella lorentzi nov. spec.

♂ ad., Wichmann Mountains (3000 m.), 1 November 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 247. — Top of head and hind neck olive-rufous; back green, with black cross-bars; rumpfeathers black with golden-yellow cross-bars; upper tailcoverts green, indistinctly barred with golden-yellow; tail green; upper wingcoverts and secondaries green; primaries blackish, with yellowish green margins to the outer webs; under wing-coverts green; sides of head green with bluish wash; an orange spot at each side of the neck; breast green; abdomen yellowish green; under tailcoverts deep red. Iris orange-red; bill slate-blue (in the skin with yellowish white tip); feet greyish blue. Wing 115, tail 77, bill 15, tarso-met. 18 mm.

♂ juv., Oranje Mountains (3600 m.), 6 November 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 256. — Top of head olive-brown: sides of head green with bluish wash; rest of plumage like that of the female of *Psittacella brehmi* (Schlegel). Iris yellow, bill dirty yellow, feet yellowish green. Wing 115, tail 80, bill damaged, tarso-met. 17 mm.

The female is unknown, but most likely it resembles the young male.

Poecilodryas quadrimaculatus nov. spec.

♀, Hellwig Mountains (2600 m.), 21 October 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 218. — Plumage shining black, with a white spot at both sides of the breast and with the four inner secondaries white, the fourth tipped with black. Iris red-brown, bill and feet black. Bill 13, wing 95, tail 61, tarso-met. 30 mm.

Poecilodryas caniceps pectoralis nov. subspec.

♂, Hellwig Mountains (2600 m.), 19 October 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 214. — Head above and at the sides dark slate-coloured; back, rump and upper tailcoverts olive-green; remiges, upper wingcoverts and tailfeathers brownish, edged with olive-green; chin and throat whitish, varied with dark grey; upper breast dark grey; centre of breast and vent bright yellow; sides of body olive-green, a little lighter than the back; under wingcoverts greyish brown, tipped with yellow; under tailcoverts bright yellow. Iris chocolate-brown, bill black, feet dark slate-coloured. Bill 12, wing 87, tail 72, tarso-met. 24 mm.

♀, Hellwig Mountains (2600 m.), 19 October 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 213. — Similar to the male, but smaller; wing 85 mm.

Paramythia montium olivaceum nov. subspec.

♂, Oranje Mountains (3500 m.), 4 November 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 252. — Like *Paramythia montium* De Vis, back and rump however not green but olive-green, and the flanks not yellow but blue like the breast. Iris blue-black, bill and feet black. Wing 117, tail 116, bill 16, tarso-met. 35 mm.

♀, Hellwig Mountains (2600 m.), 22 October 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 227. — Like the male but smaller. Wing 113, tail 105, bill 16, tarso-met. 32 mm.

♂ juv., Hellwig Mountains (2600 m.), 24 October 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 236. — Like the adult but duller and breast mottled with yellow.

Daphaenositta miranda frontalis nov. subspec.

♂, Hellwig Mountains (2600 m.), 21 October 1909; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 219. — Similar to the female *Daphaenositta miranda* De Vis, but a broad band on the fore head crimson, feathers of throat crimson with white bases, sides of face crimson. The colour of the feet is noted by Mr. Lorentz as „pale green", that of the iris as „dark sepia"; the bill is black. Wing 85, tail 40, bill 10, tarso-met. 19 mm.

A second male collected by Mr. Lorentz quite resembles the first, only the colour of the iris is marked „grey-blue" and that of the feet „dark olive-green". Unfortunately females have not been collected. The differences between these two birds and the female *Daphaenositta miranda* are of such kind, that it appears to me that they cannot be only sexual differences. I therefore separate these specimens subspecifically. A young male, shot on the same day as n⁰ 219, is black; fore head and throat cinnamon; head, back and breast mottled, secondaries and tailfeathers tipped with cinnamon.

Oreornis, nov. gen. Meliphagidarum.

Bill rather short, shorter than the head, culmen slightly curved, black; nostrils placed in a broad groove at the base of the bill and covered by a membrane. Wings rather long, a little longer than the tail. The fourth and the fifth primary equal in length and longest, third primary a little shorter, the second much shorter, the first a little longer than the half of the second. Tail rounded, feathers rather broad. Feet strong; tarso-metatarsus longer than middle toe with claw and scutellated in front. Dorsal plumage long and soft. Below the eye a patch of ochraceous, and on the earcoverts a patch of yellow, slightly lengthened feathers. No bare space at the head.

Oreornis chrysogenys nov. spec.

♂, Oranje Mountains (4150 m.), 9 November 1910; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 259. — General colour above dark brownish olive, darker on the head, more greenish on the wings and tail. Primaries brownish black, the outer webs margined with yellowish green, the inner webs with an ochraceous white margin near the base; secondaries also brownish black, the outer webs olive-green with yellowish green margins, the inner webs of the outer ones broadly edged with ochraceous white near the base. Under wingcoverts ochraceous. Lores blackish. Feathers below the eye between bill and earcoverts ochraceous. Earcoverts yellow, slightly lengthened. Chin, throat, fore neck and upper breast dark brownish olive. Centre of breast lighter. Lower breast, sides of body and vent ash-coloured, washed with olive. Thighs ochraceous. Tail underneath olive. Under tailcoverts olive, margined with pale yellow. Bill black, feet yellow. Wing 145, tail 140, bill 21, tarso-met. 42 mm.

Melirrhophetes nouhuysi nov. spec.

♀, Oranje Mountains (3800 m.), 5 November 1910; coll. Lorentz n⁰ 253. — Head deep black, without bare space behind the eye. Back and rump black, the feathers margined with olive-greyish. Wings blackish, primaries, secondaries and upper wingcoverts with narrow green margins to the outer webs. Under wingcoverts black with greyish tips. Tailfeathers blackish with narrow green margins and narrow white tips to the outer ones. Chin black. Throatfeathers white, lengthened, the barbs not connected. Under surface brownish black, feathers of the centre of the breast tipped with white, under tailcoverts edged with white. Iris dark sepia, bill black, feet dull black. Wing 130, tail 130, bill 30, tarso-met. 39 mm.

Named after Mr. J. W. van Nouhuys, the faithful companion of Mr. Lorentz.

Leyden Museum, September 1910.